

HACKER'S CREEK JOURNAL

Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants
A Historical & Genealogical Society
of Central West Virginia
Volume XXV, Issue 1, 2006-2007



ISBN : 0893-1615

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The Hacker's Creek Journal is published quarterly by the
Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants.

Manuscript Submissions

Material for publication should be addressed to JOURNAL Editor
and mailed to HCPD at the address below. Material must be
received by mid-January for March issue; mid-April for June
issue, mid-July for September issue and mid-October for
December issue.

Membership

For HCPD membership information, see the Membership Form in
back of Journal.

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Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.;
Tues., Wed. & Fri. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The HCPD office is closed on National, State, and Local Election
Days

and on the following holidays:

Good Friday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day,
Thanksgiving weekend, Dec. 23, 2006-Jan. 1, 2006

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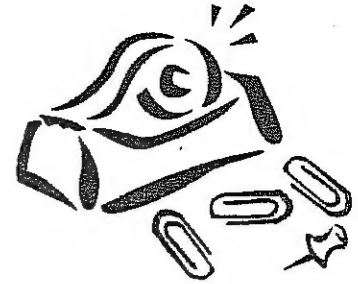
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From the DESK

Of the DIRECTOR



As I write this, it is New Years Day, 2007. A time to reflect on the year that has passed and to plan for the new year we are facing. Tomorrow we re-open the Library after having been closed for the Holidays. We are looking forward to a great year for HCPD. We have several books that we plan to publish within the coming year. These will certainly be helpful resources for your research. An updated listing of the books available from our John Sleeth Trading Post is included with this Journal. Please keep it and order books from it all during 2007.

Also, the Central West Virginia Veterans book is coming along. We are currently entering the information and pictures into our data base. Soon we will be ready to hire a publisher. A letter will soon be sent to all those who have submitted material for the book giving an updated status report.

We are also preparing for our activities for the year which earn dollars for our budget. Our annual Sweethearts Spaghetti Dinner, which we sponsor in conjunction with the East Lewis Lions Club will be coming up in February. May brings the Eatin', Singin' and History Festival. We are also contemplating a Genealogy Workshop, in the spring. Before we know it, it will be time for the Annual Gathering in August followed by the Jubilee. We invite any of you who might be in the area to join us in these activities.

We also want to provide services which will be beneficial to our members. If anyone has any suggestions of services we might add or change, please let us know. We want to meet the needs of our members in helping with resources and information. We attempt to answer your queries as quickly as possible. Our volunteers do much of the research and sometimes it takes a little longer than we would like. We ask that you be patient with us if we do not get your information to you immediately.

Also, our membership renewals have been coming in steadily. On the last day of January, we will notify our list administrator to remove those who have not paid from the HCPD List (hcpd@roostweb.com) If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2007, please do so as soon as possible, as we do not want you to miss out on the conversations and camaraderie of the postings on the list.

Betty Ann



A Search Angel Story!

Old & New Stories

Way back about 10 years ago (before there was much information on the internet), I was listed as a person who would do look ups for Harrison and Doddridge counties.

One day I received a request from Michigan for information about Catholic churches in Clarksburg which I answered with addresses and phone numbers of the churches. I could tell the person I was corresponding with was young and I figured just getting started in genealogy so I asked her who she was looking for, thinking I might find records in census or marriage records. It was her grandparents. After several messages back and forth and my asking many direct questions she finally told me their names, that they were deceased and had come over from Italy. Knowing about Holy Cross Cemetery, I looked for the names and although the spelling was not quite the same found a record of who I thought was her grandfather. That was the last I heard from her for several weeks and then I got a letter thanking me and telling me the story. She had her grandmother's ashes and was trying to find where her grandfather was buried so she could place her grandmother's ashes with him. She had traveled to Clarksburg and got permission to reunite the couple after many years of trying to locate her grandfather's grave site.

- Charlotte **FLEMING**

I have been a member of HCPD for less than a week. On Christmas Day after the presents and giant lunch, I sat down at my computer and made my first post for help on finding a long lost ancestor. In less than a few hours I got an e-mail from Ed **OLDAKER** with a name I would have never found on my own. After I got the name, I went to work on the computer and, as a result, I added at least 40 people to my family tree. The biggest surprise is that now I have found out I have quite a few German ancestors. Out of the 100's of people in my family, they were all English, Scotch or Irish...I just want to thank Ed for the help.....

- John **ARNOLD**

EARLY HISTORY

REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY SETTLERS IN AND AROUND WESTON

(TAKEN FROM SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1884, ISSUE OF THE WESTON DEMOCRAT, WESTON, W.VA.)

Being now upwards of seventy years of age, will give the readers of this article a brief history of the early settlement of this country from information received from my parents and records in my possession.

My grandfather, Henry **FLESHER**, moved from Hampshire county, Virginia, about the year of 1774, and laid a patent upon a four hundred acre survey, embracing the lands upon which Weston now stands the Asylum, a part of the Henry **FLESHER** lands, and a portion of the lands owned by Jacob **BUTCHER**, deceased. He also, in the year 1786, laid a patent upon another four hundred acre survey on the West Fork, about two miles below the first, including the mouth of Maxwell's Run. His residence was located near where the **TIERNEY** house now stands, in Weston. He and my father were handling timber near where the Weston tanyard is now, it looked likely for rain; my grandfather started for the house to get the bells for the horses; my father was untying the harness; happening to look around, he saw two Indians; my father jumped in the bushes and made his escape; one of the Indians pursuing my grandfather shot him in the elbow, overtook him just as he reached the door; the Indian knocked him down with his gun; my grandmother pulled him in and shut the door, but had not the time to put the bars across. The Indian pushed hard against the door, my grandmother withholding it as long as she could. My grandfather came to himself about the time the Indian was making his entrance. He had three guns in the rack. The first two he got were unloaded; as he got the last one his wife exclaimed "for God sake to shoot." The Indian became frightened and made his escape. My grandfather went on to point above **McGARY's HOUSE** and laid in a brush heap that night. Men came up the next day from West Fort, found him and took him to the Fort, which was located near Jane Lew, where is now the residence of Minor **HALL**. Some of the settlers in those days had to guard the fields with arms while others tended the crops.

Near this same fort the men had cut down some large trees; cut out the small brush. My mother and her sister, both small girls, were playing "ridy horse." They spied an Indian very near them; saw him laugh. They gave a scream. The men who were working near by grabbed their guns. The Indian ran from tree to tree and made his escape.

In cases of necessity to flee to the fort from Indians, my mother had her two oldest boys, George and Henry, so well trained that in the darkest of night if they should fall down or fall in mud holes they would not whimper, nor murmur, nor speak a word.

My father and mother were married in Harrison county, in the year 1792, when all these several counties were Harrison. My father was born in 1764, and died in 1854. My mother was born in 1776, and died in 1869. Both came from Hampshire county, Virginia, to this county with their parents.

My father, with Ellis **HUGHES**, made two six months tours as scouts to ascertain whether there was danger of the Indians invading the country. Their route went through almost a trackless wilderness, by the head of Middle Island, head of Hughes River, striking the Ohio river about Sistersville; thence up the Ohio to the mouth of Fishing Creek; then across to the Mononghelia below Morgantown; thence up the Mononghelia and the West Fork to place of starting. On one of those occasions they ran out of provisions and not being allowed to shoot, they starved for three days. They came across a small path and found an ear of corn which some one had lost. They broke it in two and each took a half and ate it.

I will relate another Indian incident. Several of the settlers from the vicinity below Weston went toward the Kanawha country to hunt. A young man by the name of Joe **COX** was to take horses several days after the hunters had gone, to carry their game home. Isaac **STAATS** dreamed, the night after **COX** left with the horses, the he (**COX**) had been taken captive by the Indians, representing the exact place, which is on Leading Creek, about two miles from the head, and on the farm that is known as the old "Mike **BUSH** place," and which is now owned by Thomas **CASEY**. He also stated that an Indian piped tomahawk was sticking in a stump he knew by the path. Not much was thought of the dream, until he dreamed the same thing the second night, when they were so impressed that he, with some of the family, went to the spot, where they found things, including the tomahawk in the stump, just as he had related in his dream. Some time afterward some of the friends about home was attracted by the Indian warwhoop, which drew nearer, until they recognized it to Joe **COX**, and went and met him. After **COX** had been with the Indians some time and had run the gauntlet when reaching camp, they thought he would make a good hunter; so they gave him a gun and two loads of ammunition the first day. He went as far as he could toward home marked the place; deposited the two loads and returned to camp, showed that he had killed two. Next day they gave him three loads, which he likewise deposited and returned to camp. The third day they gave him four loads, which he added to what he had deposited, when he started for home and made his escape.

I could give you quite a number of Indian incidents, such as the capture of Peter **WAGGONER** and others, but my memory is not perfect concerning all of the details, therefore will not give any more concerning the Indians.

Among the early settlers of this county were the **JACKSONS**; some settled on the Buckhannon, some about Clarksburg; and Col. Ned **JACKSON**,

the father of Cummings E. **JACKSON** and the grandfather of Stonewall **JACKSON**, settled on the West Fork about four miles below Weston, at the place now known as the **JACKSONs Mills**. The **HACKERS** settled near the head of Hacker's Creek and from them the creek derived its name. The **BONNETTS**, who settled principally on Hacker's Creek and Skin Creek. The **BRAKES**, a part of them settling in what is now Harrison county and a part in the Buckhannon country. The **BOZARTS** settled in the Buckhannon country, as also were the **PRINGLES** and **CUTRIGHTS**. John **CUTRIGHT** lived to be one hundred and five years old, and his wife one hundred and ten, as I was informed by a grand son of his. He lived for some time, when first settling here, in a large hollow sycamore tree; and afterward he used to thrash his wheat with a flail and dry fruit on a remarkable large flat stone near his **HOUSE**. The next oldest settlers in this country were the **BUSHES**, **BUTCHERS** and **STAATS**.

I will give you the origin of the names of a few of the water courses. Maxwell's run derived its name from Alex **MAXWELL**, who built a cabin in the bottom near the mouth of the creek and lived there several years. Freeman's Creek derived its name, as nearly as I can recollect, from a family of **FREEMANS**, who lived on the creek, and the Indians taking one of the family captive. Polk Creek derived its name from a poke stalk growing out at the forks of a large sycamore tree having three forks, which stood in the bottom near the Richard **CAMDEN** dwelling, the road going up the creek at that time the sycamore stood near what was known as the two fords. Stone Coal Creek derived its name, as I have always understood, from large beds of coal near its head. Jesse's Run of Hacker's Creek was named from Jesse **HUGHES**, who as I understand, lived on that creek. The **HUGHES** were also among the early settlers of this country. There have been a great many versions of the origin of the name of the Cheat river. I will now give you mine. A company coming up from the east to explore the Mononghelia river came to Cheat and thought they had reached the Mononghelia, but afterwards came on and found the true Mononghelia. They then said that this river had *cheated* them and gave it the name of Cheat river.

The incidents I have related occurred while this whole country was first known as Mononghelia county and then Harrison county.

Yours very respectfully,
Noah **FLESHER**

EARLY BUCKHANNON: THE ELIZABETH WILSON STUMP FAMILY A PRELIMINARY REPORT

By David **ARMSTRONG**

201 Graham St., Elkins, WV, 26241 - heraldry@meer.net
(Based on continuing research as of May 2004)

Some years ago the late Maxine **SANTMYER**, genealogist of Elkins, WV, told me at a meeting of the Allegheny Regional Family History Society that my ancestor, George **STUMP**, had married Elizabeth, whose maiden name had been **WILSON**. Some years later after the death of Maxine I was charged by the Elkins-Randolph County Public Library with the task of organizing part of her extensive genealogy collection which had been donated to them by her heirs. During work on this project I found a copy of a letter dated 1978 from William H. "Bill" **RICE** to one Mrs. **CHAMBERLIN** and in that letter a family Bible for the George **STUMP** family was quoted stating that George **STUMP** had married Elizabeth **WILSON** on August 16, 1768. The same letter stated that a copy of the Bible record was in the public Library at Keyser, WV. A subsequent letter to and response from the Keyser-Mineral County Library showed that the **STUMP** Bible had been in possession of Mrs. William **MULLADY** of Keyser and that their copy did in fact show that George **STUMP** had married Elizabeth **WILSON** as had been said. This is a brief account of how I determined whether there was sufficient evidence to believe that the maiden name of Elizabeth **STUMP** had been **WILSON** and how I got started on my quest for my **WILSON** family roots. This search has not turned up satisfactory results but has produced a number of likely relatives for Elizabeth. Putting these people in a family structure has up to this point proved impossible. As a by-product I have assembled some more usable material on the early Buckhannon area, the South Fork, and the migration from these areas to Tennessee.

Elizabeth **WILSON** married George **STUMP** in 1768. This marriage should have taken place on South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River near what is today the Pendleton-Hardy County Line. Therefore perhaps the best record with which to begin the search for Elizabeth's family is found in the petitions to the May 1767 court of Augusta County. This petition deals with a road up the South Fork and was signed by several persons including David **WILSON**, Charles, Joseph, and Isaac **WOOLSON**.¹

¹ Lyman **CHALKLEY**, *CHRONICLES OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH SETTLEMENT IN*

Also on the South Fork contemporary with Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP** was one John **WILSON**. It is the opinion of this writer that these five men are relatives of Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP**. Details below should provide a circumstantial case for this assertion. I will provide some brief details as to what is known about each man and then suggest a possible mother and grandfather for Elizabeth. It must be kept in mind that the family connections given or suggested in this writing are not adequately proven and this article does not claim to be the last or the definitive word on the subject. Better research and new sources may yet surface to change the connections suggested herein.

DAVID WILSON. It has long been known that the town of Buckhannon, WV, was laid out originally on land owned by the **JACKSONS**. What is generally less known is that when originally laid out the town was a very small one, a few blocks long and not as wide. What is today the town of Buckhannon is much bigger, and the majority of it (the college, Camden Avenue, and indeed most of the town) is not located on land that belonged to the **JACKSONS**. Most of what is now Buckhannon is located on land that belonged in the 1770s to David **WILSON** and George **STUMP**.²

Page 406 of The Record of Commissioners of Unpatented Lands at the Monongalia County Clerk's Office shows that in 1781 David **WILSON** was certified for 400 acres on the Buckhannon River adjoining Henry **FINK** and including his settlement of 1774. This should establish the presence of David **WILSON** on the Buckhannon River in 1774. The settlement at Buckhannon was broken up by British and Indians under Timothy **DORMAN** in 1782 and the settlers there fled to the Tygart Valley or back across the Mountains to the South Branch. David **WILSON** is found in the Hampshire County tax lists in the South Fork area in 1782 with a family of seven (likely indicating a marriage

VIRGINIA VOL I. Originally Published 1912. Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., 1999.

² *The **JACKSONS** were land speculators in a smallish way and they were the original patentees of over 7000 acres in the area of Buckhannon. These patents were assembled in part through the purchase of claims of other early settlers and it is only through complicated research in 5 courthouses that the earlier presence of other settlers can be documented and placed on the ground. Families and individuals whose settlement claims were included in the **JACKSON** patents include the **SCHOOLCRAFTS**, **BUSHes**, John **HACKER**, Timothy **DORMAN**, Henry **FINK**, John **PRINGLE**, Alexander **SLEETH**, William **WHITE**, among others. David **WILSON**, Dennis **MURPHY**, Charles **PARSONS**, The **HAGLES**, Paulser **BUTCHER**, and Peter **PUFFINBARGER** are others whose presence in the 1770s in the area around what is now Buckhannon and Tennerton has been partly obscured by the mists of time. If one includes others like the **STALNAKER** family and Henry **FLESHER** who lived in the fort there for a time a complete list of early Buckhannon settlers has not been assembled.*

about 1771 and when considered with his signature on the 1767 petition a birth in the late 1740s) and he is in the same tax list in 1783. He disappeared by 1784. He MIGHT have went to **GREEN** County, Tennessee as will be mentioned in notes below.

David **WILSON** may have sold his claim to the Buckhannon River tract to Andrew **WAGGONER**, as it was surveyed by George **STUMP** in September of 1786 and **STUMP** claimed the property as assignee of **WAGGONER**. **STUMP** later perfected his title to the property and it was granted to him in 1787.³ He still owned the property in 1805 and mentioned in his will "(land) I purchased of David **WILSON** on Buckhannon River in Harrison County." His heirs sold the property to Nicholas **WEATHERHOLT** in 1813 calling it the "plantation George purchased of David **WILSON**."⁴

JOHN WILSON. John **WILSON** is in the 1782 tax list on the South Fork with two in his family which may indicate a marriage at about that time and a likely birth in the 1760s. He married Susanna, daughter of Henry **COUCHMAN**. While there is a John **WILSON** in the 1783 Hampshire tax list this John is in another area and the John mentioned above from the 1782 list is gone from the list on the South Fork in 1783. It is known that this John **WILSON** went to **GREENE** County, Tennessee and there is a John **WILSON** in the tax list there in 1783. Family tradition has Susannah carrying their first born on horseback from Virginia to Tennessee.⁵

There is some evidence to suggest a connection between the families of this John **WILSON** and George **STUMP**. Hardy County Deed Book 1 page 38 records a 1786 document in which George **REED** "of the state of Frankland" appointed John **WILSON** of the same place as attorney for him to recover a debt. **REED** had married another daughter of Henry **COUCHMAN**. **WILSON** appointed George **STUMP** to act in his behalf. In addition to this, there is a striking similarity in the names given to children by George **STUMP** and John **WILSON**. Both families named children John, George, Elizabeth, Amelia and Charlotte. A complete list of the grown children of John **WILSON** can be found in Hardy County Deed Book 10 at page 440 and these are given in that document as: Adam, David, John, Peter, and George **WILSON**; Elizabeth, wife of Michael **HANDLEY**; Susanna, wife of Enoch **OWENS**; Margaret, wife of Samuel **KIRKLAND**; Milly, wife of George **WELTY**, and Charlotte, wife of

³ See *Harrison County Survey Book 1* page 26, *Harrison County Clerk's Office* and *Harrison County Grants Book 2* page 506, *West Virginia Auditor's Office*.

⁴ *Harrison County Deed Book 12* page 64, *Harrison County Clerk's Office*

⁵ John **TEVEBAUGH** research quoting Thomas J. **WOLFE**'s 1909 book *A HISTORY OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, INDIANA* page 76-77 & 134-135; and Goodspeed Brothers & Company's 1884 publication *HISTORY OF GREENE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES, STATE OF INDIANA*.

Parsons **CADDELL**.

Marriages for the above are recorded in Tennessee and John **WILSON**'s will was recorded there in 1809. The widow Susannah is in the 1830 census and there is ample evidence available for persons who wish to follow the John **WILSON** family. Such is beyond the scope of this writing and this writer's intent is to suggest a family connection between Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP** and John **WILSON** based on the circumstantial evidence mentioned above. Additionally, John **WILSON** was listed next door to George **STUMP** on the 1782 South Fork tax list.

CHARLES WILSON. Charles **WILSON** is something of an enigma. His paper trail will show that he was the first of the **WILSON**s to leave a record on the South Fork, he was likely born in the mid 1730s, and yet he is not likely to be the father of all of the **WILSON**s concerned in this article.

Charles **WILSON** shows up on the South Fork in 1756 when he was one of the appraisers of the Jacob **ZORN** estate. In 1757 he was in debt to Christian **DASHER**, and in 1762 he was paid from the estate of Henry **HORSE** (**HOUSE/HAAS** - more on them below).

In 1762 Charles **WILSON** acquired a tract of land on the South Fork from the former land grant of **WOOD, GREEN** and **RUSSELL**.⁶ **WILSON** remained on the South Fork and acquired other properties including a tract on Sweedlin Hill in Pendleton County. He is in the 1782 tax list with 5 in his family (suggesting a marriage about 1775/76). His 1815 will names his children and wife Esther and the subsequent record of the children indicate that they were younger than expected for a man born in the 1730s and they must have been born to him in mid life. What evidence is there that these records all refer to the same Charles **WILSON**?

Hardy County Deed Book 22 page 322 has a deed dated November 3, 1851 in which Abel Randall, under the terms of the will of Charles **WILSON**, sells the lands of Charles including the Sweedlin Hill tract and the tract acquired from **WOOD, GREEN**, and **RUSSELL** in the 1760s and devised to wife Esther by will.⁷ This document should eliminate any speculation that the Charles **WILSON** who acquired the **WOOD** tract in the 1760s and the one who left a will

⁶ **CHALKLEY**, *ibid.*, VOL III pages 43, 53, 84. There is ample additional evidence of Charles **WILSON** in **CHALKLEY** as well as in the records of Hardy and Pendleton Counties for interested persons but such is beyond the space allotted for this writing.

⁷ The Pendleton County land grants of **WOOD, GREEN** and **RUSSELL** present an example in reverse of what happened with the lands of the **JACKSON** family at Buckhannon. In the Pendleton County case the **WOOD**s etc. were speculators (absentee) who perfected title to large tracts and then sold the same to the earliest settlers. In the Buckhannon case the settlers sold their claims to the speculators (**JACKSON**s).

naming younger than expected children in 1815 were different men. This leaves some troubling questions. Why does no evidence of a wife or children for Charles **WILSON** turn up between 1756 and the 1770s? Did he have an earlier wife and children who died of disease, fire, war or flood? He cannot be the father of the John **WILSON** covered above as he named a younger son John in his will. He **MUST** be related to the Isaac and Joseph **WILSON** (**WOOLSON**) who signed the 1767 petition as he remembered them by naming children Isaac and Joseph. He cannot be ruled out as the father of the David **WILSON** covered above nor of Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP** but the **HOUSE/HARNESS/WILSON** information given below may make such a connection unlikely.

JOSEPH AND ISAAC WILSON. Nothing definite is known about Isaac and Joseph **WILSON** after the 1767 petition. A Joseph **WILSON** shows up on the 1783 Greene County, Tennessee tax list with John **WILSON** mentioned above but **WILSON** is a common name and identification of them based solely on similar naming must be done with some caution.

ADDITIONAL TENNESSEE NOTES. A David **WILSON** shows up in **GREENE** County, Tennessee roughly at the time South Fork David disappears from Virginia. There is a David **WILSON** Sr. and Jr. in **GREENE** County. John **WILSON** covered above had a son David who may or may not be identical with the David Jr. in Tennessee. In the tax list of 1798 both David and John **WILSON** are shown with land on the Little Chucky River.

The records in the name of **WILSON** in **GREENE** County are too numerous to sort out and the same could be said of the records in the name of David **WILSON**. One, however, may be worth a passing mention. In the 1796 Court of Common Pleas David **WILSON** Sr. enters into bond as ball for David **WILSON** Jr. for the maintenance of a bastard child born of Polly **THORN**. This is of some interest as on the South Fork there was a Mary Ann **THORN** and daughter Mariah Ann **RATLIFF** who both had several children out of wedlock.⁸ Whether there is a connection between them and this Polly **THORN** is not known.

HOUSE / WILSON / HARNESS. A troubling scenario in the search for the parentage and family of Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP** begins in 1768 with the will of Peter **HOUSE** (**HAAS/HORSE**). In his will **HOUSE** mentions a number of

⁸ Mary Ann **THORN** and her descendants constitute one of the most interesting pedigrees in the state. She herself has two tombstones, her son Nimrod **THORN** Sr. was originally **RATLIFF**, and some descendants seem to drift in and out of the names **BRAKE, JORDAN, RATLIFF, THORN** and **SITES**. The family is an outstanding challenge for any researcher who likes a good logic puzzle.

children including his third daughter Elizabeth **WILSON**. Given what is known about the other daughters of Peter **HOUSE** (Margaret **TRACE** and Mary **HYRE**) this Elizabeth must have been born about 1729 and likely married about 1748. This Elizabeth was still named **WILSON** in 1777 when she with Jonathan **HEATH** and Joseph **PETTY** posted bond for execution of the estate of Peter **HOUSE**.⁹

So in 1768 there was a Mrs. **WILSON** on the South Fork old enough to be the mother of Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP**. Who was her husband? This Mrs. **WILSON** lived to old age and remarried to a man named **HARNESS**. This first came to my attention when Bill Rice (noticed above) pointed out to me the Hardy County will of one Elizabeth **HARNESS**, dated 1798, in which she names George **STUMP** as executor of the will.¹⁰ She also names her "three daughters" Elizabeth (whom she lived with), Mary and Sarah. She additionally names her sons David and John. All of these children are named in the will **WITHOUT SURNAMES**. She also names Peter **HOUSE**, son of her brother. Interestingly enough David **WILSON** is listed next door to Peter **HARNESS** in the 1783 South Fork tax list.

The implications of this will are as obvious as they are troubling. It is known that the author of it was married to a **WILSON** prior to 1768 (and probably about 1748) and named a daughter Elizabeth, and was living with this daughter at the time of her death. It is also known that an Elizabeth **WILSON** (born in 1749 per the Bible of George **STUMP**) married George **STUMP** and that George **STUMP** was named as executor of the Elizabeth **HARNESS** will. It is further known that two **WILSONs** (David and John) can be shown as associates of George **STUMP** and their names match two of the names in the Elizabeth **HOUSE/WILSON/HARNESS** will. The **HARNESS** experts I have contacted are at a loss to say which **HARNESS** this Elizabeth was the wife of and say that David is not a name prevalent in the **HARNESS** family. Another connection between the **WILSON** and **HOUSE** families is that in 1785 Charles **WILSON** was among the appraisers of the estate of Jacob **HOUSE**.

IN CONCLUSION. I have published a number of historical articles over the years. I have often (using newly-discovered primary documents) set up theoretical scenarios and presented these for further debate, study, and research. I have at times been too strong in my assertions and have stated things as if they were fact when in fact they should have been clearly presented as theory. The years have tempered this habit and I am now very careful. Therefore I cannot state strongly enough that the conclusions I will draw from the above evidence is **THEORY**. I invite others to find documentation to

⁹ *Hampshire County Envelope 9, Microfilm at West Virginia University West Virginia and Regional History Collection.*

¹⁰ *Hardy County Circuit Court Will Book A, page 4, Hardy County Clerk's Office*

complement, add to, or refute it. I DO NOT claim my conclusions as proven facts. That having been said, I present some ideas about the family of Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP**.

It is possible that the signers of the 1767 petition (David, Charles, Joseph, and Isaac **WILSON**) are her relatives, maybe brothers and father. Clear connections can be made between George **STUMP** and two of these (David and John). I suspect that David and Joseph went to Tennessee with John, but more research is needed on that end to sort out the many Davids down there and I have neither the time nor the inclination to follow this that far. I am of the opinion that there is sufficient circumstantial evidence to suggest that the mother of Elizabeth **WILSON STUMP** was Elizabeth, daughter of Peter **HOUSE**, and that the children named in her will without surnames may be named **WILSON** if she married Mr. **HARNESS** in her old age. Again I DO NOT claim that these ideas are proven. This is a theoretical model for us to discuss, debate, and try to disprove or prove. If anyone has better or additional information they are invited to send the same to the author at the above address.

HCPDers Have Big Hearts



Early in the fall, it was announced on HCPD-L that one of our office persons, Sue (last name withheld for privacy reasons), had breast cancer and would be off work for several months without pay while she had chemo and radiation. HCPDers opened their pocketbooks and sent in \$980 to help her through the rough times. She was most grateful – and, of course, cried a bucket of tears when she learned of the generosity of our members. She sent a beautiful thank you card too.

Sue is doing ok now. She has completed her chemo for the present time and is doing her radiation.

Although her original plan was to continue to work after she turns 62 in February. She has changed her mind and is going to take her retirement and stay home to try to get herself better.

Thanks so much from the bottom of our hearts for your contributions to this cause.

Juice & prayers to one and all!
HCPD Board

LEWIS COUNTY CONNECTIONS

And a World War II Love Story

By Diane Hill **ZIMMERMAN**

Note: Continued from Volume XXIV, Issue 4.

LOIS: After World War II ended, we wanted to take up our lives again and make a home together. We decided to move to the mountains because Harold spent every weekend there anyway. He'd go to Pendleton County with his or my brothers, fishing in the summer and hunting in the winter. I went occasionally but we only had a Plymouth coupe with no back seat so there was only room for three. Sometimes we'd take Diane with us. She'd share the window ledge behind the seat with Flirt, my black Cocker Spaniel. They'd snuggle together and sleep most of the way. She was only five.

We either camped out, usually at Trout Rock (in the big bend before you get to Franklin), stayed at the Franklin Hotel, at Mac's (McClure) Cabins or at the cabins at Thorn Creek. The Thorn Creek cabins were flooded in 1948 or '9 and Macs Cabins were completely swept away in the great flood of 1985.

We found several acres of property we liked near the Virginia state line on Route 220 in Pendleton County and the owner, Otto **HARPER** agreed to sell it. He and his wife, Nannie, lived just down and across the road where they owned more property. The South Fork of the Potomac River flowed past the property. The Potomac River separated at Hightown, Virginia. All the water that flowed to the right went to Richmond and the James River and all that flowed left went to Washington and into the Potomac.

Just down the road was an old mill that wasn't being used, so we rented it until we could get a place built. It wasn't on the river because it was machine driven rather than water driven. After we left, it was moved across the road and attached to the house of Jess **ARBOGAST**, a distant relative. After the whole thing was painted you couldn't tell it hadn't always been one house.

The mill was just one big open room with an attic overhead where Diane slept. Our bedroom was downstairs. A wood-burning cook stove was the only source of heat. The oven wouldn't heat properly and I couldn't bake so we had a lot of graham cracker crust pies with cream fillings. Diane loved to eat the buttery graham cracker crumbs left over from the pies so I made sure there was a lot left. I heated "sad irons" on the stove to iron our clothes and brought

in water from a well just outside the front door.

We shared an outhouse the Max **HARPER** family who lived a little way up the hill. Max had been wounded during the war and wasn't very well. He had a daughter, Juanita, just Diane's age so they played a lot together. There was no electricity so in the evening we read or worked by the light of an oil lamp.

We designed a four-story structure with one side of the basement against the bank so that you walked into the store on the first level but three sides of the basement had outside walls. We lived in the top two stories. I wanted a fireplace in the living room but Rob **HALDERMAN**, the builder, said it would be too heavy, so we had potbelly stoves for heat. We didn't put in central heating to save money but had running water and a bathroom. Our water came from a spring up on the mountain on the other side of the road.

In the beginning we only sold groceries, gasoline and oil, ice cream, soft drinks and sandwiches. The first winter we couldn't pay bills from store proceeds so Harold went home to Brown to work in the coal mine. We never wanted to put in beer but when Harold came back he decided we had to do it or we couldn't make a profit. There wasn't any beer sold in the area; the closest was Brandywine, Virginia. We opened in 1946 and began selling beer in 1947. By 1950 the store and house were paid for, we had a new car, money in the bank and a new furnace. We now had radiators for heat.

It doesn't take much figuring to see why we couldn't make a profit without beer. The biggest seller was gasoline at .25 per gallon. Profit was only .04, less evaporation, out of every gallon sold. On beer, the profit was half of the cost of 20 cents per bottle. We'd never have made a go of it without it because there was very little traffic on Route 220, especially in the winter. At first we couldn't stay in beer and had to buy it from other stores when we ran out. Of course, there was no profit when we did this but we wanted to keep our customers happy.

It was a very scary time but we were determined to make it and pay off our debt. We had savings in bonds and a savings account but still needed to borrow \$3000. We didn't want to go further in debt for luxuries.

George **SMITH** and my brothers, Harley and Lowell, co-signed our note and we never missed a payment. We were able to buy the land outright and make a start on the house but needed the buy inventory.

Harold was determined ready to give up a few times.

The windows and doors had to be hand made because manufactured ones weren't available. Most factories had to re-tool for peacetime manufacturing so there were still a lot of shortages. Finally, on New Years Day of 1947, we got running water to the kitchen sink that Mom had found for us. After that Harold left to work in the coal mine. He wanted me to be as safe as possible so he got Rob to build a door for the basement to replace a piece of canvas.

A WINTER OF DISCONTENT

While Harold was gone the waterline froze up so I had to melt snow for water. Snow was the only thing we had plenty of. The pipe stayed frozen until a deeper snow came and insulated it and raised the temperature enough to thaw. On an ordinary day, I had to make a lot of trips up and down the stairs but I set a record during that time. A bucket of snow doesn't amount to a bucket of water so I was continually carrying something up or down the stairs: ashes, wood, slops and snow. I had to keep a stove burning in the basement so pop and stuff wouldn't freeze so I sawed and carried wood to three floors: the basement, store and kitchen. We didn't heat the upstairs because we weren't using it yet.

Diane helped me saw up slag wood that first winter even though she was still very small. She wasn't any trouble and was good company for me. The Gum boys brought the slag wood from a sawmill and we used a cross cut saw to cut it into stove length. I nearly ran out. I only had enough wood for one more stove full when they brought some more. The snow had been so deep they couldn't get a truck out so I was very fortunate. Slag wood is the bark and sides left when a log is cut into lumber. Diane and I called the stove in the kitchen "STOVE" (pronounced in capital letters) after the one in "The Egg and I" by Betty McDonald. It was cozy in the kitchen after supper in the wintertime.

A drive-in theater was built nearby in the late 1950s but we didn't get a telephone until later. They could put a telephone line under the ocean but couldn't seem to get one up the South Branch.

It was a fearful time for me that winter when Harold was gone. I didn't know the customers and, if there was a problem, there was no way to contact anyone. No one would know I needed help for hours or even days. Most nights I stayed with Mrs. HARPER. It was a hard winter but one night was especially bad. It stormed and snowed and the waterline froze up. There'd been no customers so I closed the store around 4:00 p.m. and Flirt, Diane and I walked to Mrs. HARPER's. Mr. HARPER was also gone, off working in a sawmill in Timberville, Virginia. Joanne, Mrs. HARPER's teenage granddaughter, was also staying with her at night and going to school during the day.

After supper we were enjoying the nice warm living room (the bedrooms weren't heated) and Joanne begged Mrs. HARPER, who was a wonderful storyteller, to tell ghost stories. She really got into the spirit of it and was relating an especially spooky story when we heard something outside. We went out on the front porch and saw fresh footprints in the snow all around the house. Diane and I slept on cots in the front room where it was warm. Diane went to sleep but I didn't feel much like going to bed - I was petrified and was always a night owl anyway.

I kept hearing voices in the basement. I woke Mrs. HARPER but

was told it was only my imagination. Flirt kept on growling so I knew my imagination didn't have anything to do with it. Later Mrs. HARPER confessed that it was her brother and his cronies. They were drinking and apparently got cold and hungry so they broke into the basement to get some canned food. The HARPER's dog, Tippy, wasn't bothered because he knew them and Joanne wasn't afraid as long as her Grandma wasn't but it was about the worst night of my life.

I opened the store on time the next day and didn't see any evidence that it had been tampered with. When the waterline thawed the basement faucet started making very ominous noises but it made me happy. I wouldn't have to carry any more water. Right from the beginning, the Harrisonburg Grocery Company would come on Tuesday to take our order and deliver it the following Thursday. Some soda pop companies went right by us on their way to Monterey so that wasn't a problem. We still couldn't get bread so Clarence COLAW, who had a little store up the road about ;~ a mile from us, actually bought us bread with his order. The COLAW's house was built half in Virginia and half in West Virginia but they paid taxes to Virginia. We didn't want any problems so we paid taxes to both Virginia and West Virginia. Everybody was good to us.

FIRST WASHING MACHINE

DIANE: Aunt Lois, like many other West Virginia women, washed clothes on a washboard until 1948. This was the hardest job she had. The automatic washing machine was the greatest invention ever for easing women's work. Aunt Lois said she'd never forget when she got her first wringer washer. She had gone home to Brown for a visit and her parents were going to take her back the next weekend - but Uncle Harold came to get her a week early. She could tell he was excited about something but he wouldn't say what. He was a very stubborn man. He wanted her to come home but Lois wanted to stay with her folks as long as possible. Harold told my mom, Louise, that he had bought her a washing machine and wanted it to be a surprise. Mom took her aside and said, "If I were you I'd go home." So she did and had a wonderful surprise. It was a brand new wringer type Maytag complete with "set tubs," (two tubs set together on a frame). After washing the clothes you put them through the wringer into one tub for the first rinse in hot water, turned the wringer 45 degrees and wrung them into the other tub which had cold water. Then you wrung them one more time into a clothesbasket and hung them up. After they got a furnace and could afford to hire help in the store, their happiness was nearly complete except they never got over hoping for children.

TRAPPING BEAVER

LOIS: One year Harold and I learned to trap beaver at a school in Durbin, three or four nights a week. Beaver was getting scarce so we had to have a permit. We were taught how to take care of the hide using a beaver-board that

looked like a big sheet of plywood. You cut it down the middle and stretched the beaver hide over it. After the hide was stretched you scraped it with a putty-knife like tool to take off any flesh. Beaver is a lot harder to skin out than other animals. You couldn't make a hole so it was very particular work.

The only thing beavers will eat is birch bark so you use that to bait the traps. Several beavers were caught between the 15th and 30th of January but four was the limit for one team.

We were assigned a territory on Middle Mountain. We drove up a road to the top of the mountain and then turned right. From there we had to walk in the rest of the way.

We went every morning to check for beaver and to re-bait the traps. Of course, it was always cold and the roads were usually bad. One morning the roads were especially icy. It was raining and the roads just looked wet but it was "black ice," rain that froze as soon as it hit. At the foot of Allegheny Mountain towards Elkins, at a big turn near Onego, there were about six cars in the ditch. One fellow was trying to cross the road but was sliding all over the place, but we managed to get by.

Then we met a tractor-trailer truck in another steep turn but Harold steered to the left and the road was wide enough that truck was able to miss us. Harold got straightened around but the truck jack knifed with the trailer coming directly toward us. I don't know how it missed us but it did. We couldn't stop so we kept going up Rich Mountain. When I commented that I didn't see how Harold missed the truck, he said. "'Well to tell the truth, we didn't. Our bodies are back there and this is only our souls going up the mountain.'

Another time something was falling out of the sky but it wasn't rain, sleet, hail or snow but a substance that coagulated as soon as it hit the ground. We'd read about atomic snow and figured that was what that was. After all that, we only caught one beaver."

MOUNTAIN MAMAS

The mountains were chock full of interesting people. I still care about them and correspond with several. The first year we were there, I invited my neighbors, Blanche **SHRADER**, Estee **COLAW**, Daisy **FLESHER** and Nannie **HARPER** to dinner. Daisy and Nannie were sisters-in law. They were all good-sized women and the rubber mat in front of the kitchen sink couldn't stand up to their weight. They wore it out when they washed the dishes.

Mrs. **HARPER**'s mother, Mrs. **FLESHER**, called all farm stock "brutes", as in "Who's goin'ta feed them brutes." As a child, shortly after the Civil War, she nearly saw her father murdered. She had been with him in the field but left to get him a drink of water. Her mother was just taking some cookies out of the oven so she asked her to wait until she could fix some to go with the water. When she got

back to the field she saw her father lying dead and a man that she knew walking away with his gun across his shoulders, holding it with a hand on either end of the gun. The man escaped to Kansas and was never brought to justice. He was mad at her father because he wouldn't sell him a piece of land he wanted.

Mrs. **FLESHER** got along really well with Uncle Harold because they both liked to kid around. She loved to talk and tell stories and never met a stranger. She also loved to eat and it showed. She lived in the "Hardscrabble" area when a girl.

Some real characters came into the store. One lady used snuff but didn't want her husband to know it. When she bought some she'd have us charge it but write it down as "thread". When her husband came in with her to pay the bill he complained about the amount of thread she used and she replied, "Well, you know how it is paw, just patch, patch, patch."

Another time a real American Indian came in just as Harold was reading a book about Indians. He looked at the book and tapped it with a finger and said, "Ugh, not true." Harold had some Indian blood so it was a subject that interested him.

People respected us and we never had any trouble, even after we put in a jukebox and couples started coming in to dance. If Harold did have to ask someone to leave, they went quietly. They knew Harold was a tough guy and that others there would back him up if they caused trouble.

The mountain people still spoke in a dialect that was nearly Elizabethan. Those from the Thorn Creek area ended their sentences with 'a' and an upward inflection. If someone was thirsty they might say, "I'm about to perish of thirst." I loved listening to them but after everyone got television you didn't hear it much more.

There were lots of opportunities to get hurt, living close to the edge of danger the way most mountain people did. Most of the men and a lot of the woman drank, which made it worse. Someone we knew was always getting hurt or killed either from hunting or logging or in a car. There was also a high suicide rate.

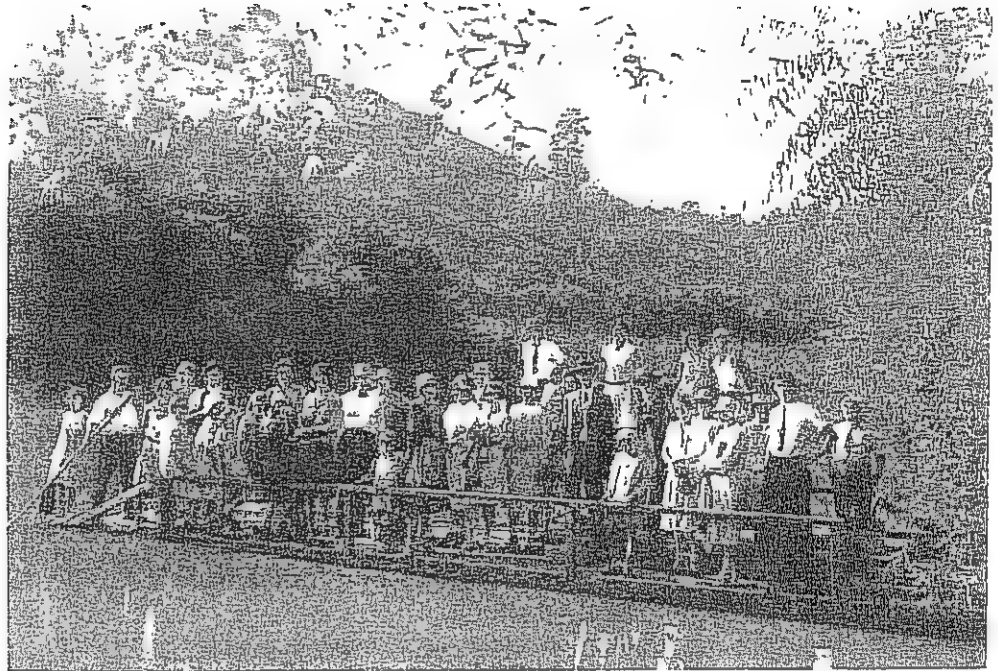
Harold had a Volkswagen Beetle that he really liked. Once he was driving it over the mountain and was involved in a terrible accident. It wasn't his fault but the car was totaled and he broke a vertebra in his back. Afterward you could see part of the top of his head, with the hair still attached, on the roof where his head hit the ceiling. He didn't get better for a long time. I had to close the beauty shop and stay at home to tend him and the store. Mrs. **HARPER's** grandson, the little brother of Joanne, was killed in a car accident as a teenager. Mrs. Harper's sister, Bonnie, had a girl nearly killed in a wreck. She was in coma several months. I watched Ocie **WAYBRIGHT**, a playmate of Diane and Janet's, grow up next door to us. He was killed in a car accident

when he was only eighteen. Mountain people were prone to taking risks and weren't afraid of much of anything. But sometimes they didn't win.

To be continued in Volume XXV, Issue 2

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Picture from Awhile Ago



Does anyone know the occasion or the persons in this picture from our Archie Ellis Collection? Please contact joy@hackerscreek.com or write to HCPD, 45 Abbotts Run Road. Please indicate Top Picture or Bottom Picture

THE LINGER FAMILY

Original, unedited typed as written

by Ella Linger **CLARK**

Nicholas **LINGER** who was born in Hesse, Germany left his home at the age of 18 years old. He told the Caption of the boat that he was running off from his home and wanted to come to America. So the Caption took him in the ship and hid him among some barrels. He come to America during the Revolutionary War. and served in the capacity of a soldier until captured at Trenton New Jersey in 1776. After the war he chose the United States as his future home and married Margaret. **McNEMAR**. They had several children both boys and girls. but I don't know how many there was of the family. He like the United States and never at no time wanted to go back to Germany. after his marriage he settled down and was a hatter by trade and made mens hats. I heard that he settled down on Hackers Creek but am not sure.

Uncle William **LINGER** never saw a train. When he was first married there was no train any closer than Clarksburg at that time. He took down sick and when the train did come to Weston and on through to Buckhannon. he was not able to go to see it and died without ever seeing a train.

One son my Grandfather--Phillip **LINGER**, married Sarah **CUTRIGHT** from Hinklesville Upshur County. to this union I have a record of six sons and 4 daughters.

(Sons namely)

Isac **LINGER**.

Oliver **LINGER**

George **LINGER**

Grandville **LINGER**

Phillip Fairburn **LINGER**

(Daughters)

Polly **LINGER CHIDESTER**

Mary **LINGER HICKS**

Margaret **LINGER HARRIS**

Catherine **LINGER SUMMERS**

My Father Phillip Fairburn **LINGER** was married twice. His first wife Louiza C. **HOLAND**. to this union was born one son and one daughter, Edward Clinton **LINGER** and Cora Alda **LINGER**. For his second marriage he married Susan Elizabet **CAMPBELL**. to this union 5 boys and 6 girls were born.

(Boys)

Thomas Clinton **LINGER**

Oscar Fairburn **LINGER**

Frank Holand **LINGER**

Harry Grandville **LINGER**

Guy Upton **LINGER**

(Girls)

Carrie Adillia **LINGER SIMONS**

Mary Gertrude **LINGER CLARK**

Ella Mae **LINGER CLARK**

Minnie Ethyl **LINGER KIDD**

Malta Gay **LINGER SMITH**

Madge Elizabeth **LINGER LOUGH**

My mother's parents names were Alexander **CAMPBELL** and Carlinda **McMILLION CAMPBELL**. the **McMILLIONS** came from Scotland. Grandfather **CAMPBELL** was murdered by a Doctor John **GOWARLD**. This Dr. had borrowed five hundred dollars from Grandfather and when the note was due Grandpa went to the Doctor's home to collect the money. So the Doctor did not pay it. and perhaps they had some words between them and the Doctor picked up a club and knocked Grandpa in the back of his head and killed him. So the Dr. took some dynamite and blew up one corner of his own home and claimed someone else had done it but when he got down on his death bed some years later he told all about it.

Grandfather **LINGER** was the first person to own a cook stove in this part of the county and people from miles around would come to see the cook stove. A Mr. **LAWSON** saw two tomatoes on the mantel and he took one of them off the mantel and asked Grandmother what they was. She said they was tomatoes. Mr. **LAWSON** said they

looked good enough to eat and Grandmother said ah they are not fit for a hog to eat.

My Father bought the farm which is now known as the Will LOUGH property off of Wellington CHIDESTER, and at that time Uncle Wellington CHIDSTER lived upon the hill in a two room log house. He taught school in a log school house with seats made of split logs on pegs for seats and greased paper for window lights. The school house had a large open fire place to burn wood for heat. The boys would take turn about cutting wood. The schoolhouse was upon the hill just where the gas well is now. For water they would carry it in a wooden bucket from a spring and all would drink from a gourd dipper. They did not know what a bell was and the teacher would pound on the wall and tell them it was dinnertime. There were paths through the woods and on one morning, the boys and girls were coming to school and a big bear got after them. So one of the girls was wearing a red shawl. She would take off her red shawl and wave it at the bear and kept it scared back until they got to the school house.

Uncle Wellington CHIDESTER had a spring which was not so close the home. So he and two oldest sons decided to dig a water well, which they walled up with rough rocks they struck a good vein of water. So they used a wooden bucket, which had a grape vine tied to it to draw the water up. His yard just had a brush fence around it.

My father was living in Pleasant County with his first wife's parents. With the two children Edward Clinton, 5 years old, and Cora Alda, 2 years old. So when he married mother he decided to come back to Lewis County to live. He bought property on Bonnetts Creek and there was no train any nearer than Clarksburg. They moved to Clarksburg by train and harried a man to bring them in a covered wagon driven by oxen to Bonnetts Creek. After they lived there a few years they sold out and bought property in Polk Creek. Later he bought the present farm which was known at the P. F. LINGER Far, now known as the LOUGH Farm.

I have often heard my mother tell about when they first moved to this farm they decided to buy some sheep. Father went over on Wheeler Fork and come back without any sheep. Mother asked him if he bought any sheep. He said no, but could bought a few head but they wanted too much for them, \$5.00 a head. Mother said no they would go without any sheep if they had to pay such a high price as that

for them. In a few days Father went over to **PRINGLE** Fork and bought 7 head of sheep for \$2 1/2 a head. People them days did not know the value of anything Mother sold her cow to a Mr. **SWISHER** for \$50 and them days that was a good price for a cow.

My father owned and kept a store in Vandalia for 40 years. Eggs sold then for 10 and 12 a doz., lard 12 cents a lb. Fish sold for 7 and 8 cents a lb., coffee 15 and 25 cents a lb., brooms sold for 15 and 25 cents and a 35 cent broom was an extra good broom. Bleached muslin sold for 10 per yard, Cambrick muslin for 12 cents per yard, print goods for 10 and 15 per yard 2 1/2 gal buckets sold for 25 each. My father kept the Post Office in his store for a number of years which Office was called Big Skin Creek.

The village of Vandalia to one time was named Austin and later on changed to Vandalia. Weston at one time as only a village with dirt roads and a few plank sidewalks. and was called by the name Fleshersville and Lewis County was named after a family of Lewis that lived in Fleshersville.

I have been asked by several what **LINGER** had the largest family. From what I have learned is that-- Granville and Nancy **STALNAKER LINGER** had the largest family which was 18 children both boys and girls. but I don't know all of their names. My father and mother had 11 children and Dr. Joseph **ROACH** delivered over half of the babies and only charged \$2 1/2 for each birth and all except Madge when she was born Dr. **ROACH** told Dad that he was ashamed to charge such a high price for her birth which was \$5.00 and his trips was by horse back any kind of weather.

I learned a few weeks ago that my Grandfather Phillip **LINGER** bought property from a Mr. **BEECHLER**. in the year of 1817 and built a large log house on it. and this (year 1964) makes the old log house , 147 yeas old, Grandfather's old weight clock still hangs on the wall and run and kept good time for one hundred and thirty some years.

Miss Mollie **LINGER** and sister Fay **LINGER McCUE** now live in this olds log house. This farm is located above Georgetown. My niece Beverly Ann **MOORE** was born on August 8th. A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jackie **MOORE** of Clarksburg W.Va., which was the birth date of her Great-Great-Grandfather the late Fairburn **LINGER**, and also Wayne **MOORE** has a plate that the Great-Great-Grandfather ate off of for many years.

Men in Gray:

Confederate Soldiers of Central West Virginia

by Ralph BENNETT

From the onset of our American Civil War both Union and Confederate governments fiercely endeavored to hold onto the area that was then northwest Virginia, with its' productive farms, valuable salt resources and strategic section of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. These counties west of the Allegheny Mountains served as fertile ground for the recruitment of soldiers for the blue and the gray. It was a land of divided loyalties where the fighting was often of a brutal guerilla type of warfare. The struggle of brother against brother is one of the most enduring legacies of the American Civil War. These conflicts that divided families and communities created resentment and mistrust that persisted for many years.

Over 20,000 men from (West) Virginia fought for the cause of Southern Independence. This article discusses the lives of a few of these men who served the Confederate States of America and is dedicated to their memory, lest they be forgotten. 1)

On 18 May 1861 the 'Mountain Guards' company (later Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry) of Confederate soldiers was organized at Meadowville, Barbour County and the same day marched triumphantly to Philippi to join other Confederate units. 2)

John Riley **PHILLIPS**, later elected Captain, was requested to deliver a farewell speech to gathered supporters. **PHILLIPS** wrote in his diary, "I was brimming over with patriotism. I told our friends we would be with them within the year, and promised the girls their beaux back at the coming Christmas, but alas! Many of them never returned again. They lie sleeping amid the blue hills of their now peaceful Virginia. No tombstone marks their final resting-place, they perished. I was mistaken, everybody was sadly mistaken The war was long and stubborn...God grant that we may never witness such another scene as were those days of tears, parting and war."

JOHN RILEY PHILLIPS- 2nd Lt.-Captain, Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry. Born 24 August 1839 near Meadowville, Glade District of Barbour County. Son of

James & Osa (**JOHNSON**) **PHILLIPS** and grandson of Jacob & Sarah (**BENNETT**) **PHILLIPS**. His mother Osa was the daughter of John & Elizabeth (**POLING**) **JOHNSON** and granddaughter of Robert & Mary (**VANNOY**) **JOHNSON**). His grandmother Sarah was the daughter of Jacob & Sarah **BENNETT** of Fauquier County, Virginia. Sarah had moved to Barbour County with her mother and siblings following the death of her father in 1805. John was raised on Brushy Fork Creek in Valley Furnace, Barbour County, along with one sibling, Sarah Ann **PHILLIPS**. She was to marry Robert S. **GODWIN**, a fellow soldier of her brother. Captain **PHILLIPS** was wounded in action six times during the Civil War. He was promoted to Captain, Co. K, following his wounding on 13 December 1861 at the Battle of Allegheny Mountain, Pocahontas County, (West) Virginia. He suffered his sixth wound 6 May 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness and received a medical discharge 24 February 1865 due to wounds at the CSA Hospital, University of Virginia, Charlottesville. Captain **PHILLIPS** remained in the Charlottesville area at the Sutherland private hospital in North Garden until the end of the war where he was paroled 17 May 1865 by the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He returned to Valley Furnace where he worked as a farmer, teacher and writer. He married Elizabeth **PARKS** on 7 March 1867. The marriage produced two daughters. Alice, born 1868 and May, born 1873. Captain **PHILLIPS** died 25 October 1894 at Valley Furnace and is buried in Shiloh Cemetery. Elizabeth **PHILLIPS** died 01 March 1938.

An excerpt from his obituary in the Barbour Democrat newspaper states, "Captain **PHILLIPS** was as brave a soldier as ever wore the uniform and has carried in his person for the last thirty years a wound received in the war which has given him pain unknown to the public and too many of his friends... Like an autumn leaf he fell, but not unnoticed".

His early life and Civil War experiences are described in his book, 'A History of Valley Furnace', which was serialized in the Barbour Democrat, July 31-November 13, 1968. His writings reveal an individual of great promise and intellectual ability who perhaps due to his wounds and the trauma of his war experiences was sadly never able to realize his potential. 3)

Bennett PHILLIPS- Private, Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry. Born 1823 Barbour County. Son of Jacob & Sarah (**BENNETT**) **PHILLIPS**, and uncle to John Riley **PHILLIPS**. He married first on 17 April 1841 to Anna **FITZWATER** and second, 30 November 1884 to Almira **PHILLIPS**. Private **PHILLIPS** enlisted 29 May 1861 at Philippi. He deserted July 1862, following the Battle of Malvern Hill and returned to Barbour County where he was arrested by Captain John **MCNEILL**'s Confederate Rangers. There is no further military record. **BENNETT** died Barbour County in 1912 and is buried Shiloh Cemetery, Valley Furnace.

MORTIMER C. JOHNSON- Private, Co. H, 31st Virginia Infantry, 2nd Lt., Co A, 18th Virginia Cavalry & Captain, 2nd Co. H, 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry. Born 1836 Meadowville, Barbour County. He married Rebecca **POLING**, daughter of James & Elizabeth (**VANNOY**) **POLING**. Mortimer was a son of William & Lydia Ann (**WELLS**) **JOHNSON** and grandson to Levi & Rebecca (**McMULLAN**) **JOHNSON**. His father, William **JOHNSON** of Meadowville was a strong Confederate sympathizer and spent the war years in self imposed exile as a political refugee in Highland County, Virginia, serving as Barbour County representative to the Virginia House of Delegates. Mortimer, a tradesman like his father, enlisted 14 May 1861 at Philippi as Private in Co. H, (Barbour Greys), commanded by Captain Albert G. **REGER**. He received a medical discharge from the CSA for prolonged typhoid fever with resultant deafness, 14 June 1862, near Mt. Meridian, Virginia, following the Battle of Port Republic. Returning to Barbour County he enlisted in Co. A, 18th Virginia Cavalry and was appointed 2nd Lt. on 5 September 1862. He then organized 2nd Co. H, 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry and was elected Captain on 4 April 1863. He was very likely present on the retreat of the Army of Northern Virginia following the Battle of Gettysburg and the subsequent Battle of Williamsport, Maryland. During the sad aftermath of the battle of Gettysburg, the 62nd Virginia was assigned to escort the seventeen-mile-long wagon train of Confederate wounded returning to Virginia. Captain **JOHNSON** was described in the 1894 issue of 'The Confederate Veteran', as one of the most successful scouts in Virginia who made frequent trips across the Allegheny Mountains to scout Union activities and recruit Confederate soldiers and horses. 4) While on detached duty with other members of the 62nd Virginia, Mortimer was ambushed and killed on 6 December 1863 by the Union Home Guard in a skirmish at the Sinks of Gandy, Randolph County, leaving his wife and two daughters. He is buried in New Bethel Cemetery, Meadowville, Barbour County. His tombstone inscription reads, 'CAPTAIN M.C.**JOHNSON** 1836-1863 REBECCA HIS WIFE 1843-1926 HE GAVE HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY'.

ISAAC VENDEVENTER JOHNSON- 2nd Lt.-1st Lt., Co. H, 31st Virginia Infantry. He was brother to Mortimer C. **JOHNSON**. Born Barbour County 15 November 1837. Isaac was a prominent citizen who served the Barbour Circuit Court before the Civil War. Lt. **JOHNSON** was badly wounded in the thigh 13 December 1861 at Battle of Allegheny Mountain. Due to his wound disability he transferred to the Confederate Quartermaster Dept. at Richmond for the duration of the war. He was elected Clerk of the Barbour County Circuit Court in 1872 and was elected State Auditor of West Virginia in 1892. He married first, 24 December 1874 to Fanny **LINK**, with whom he had three daughters. Fanny died 25 August 1891. Isaac then married Fanny **KEMPER**, 20

September 1893. He died 13 May 1916 at Shepherdstown, West Virginia and is buried Masonic Cemetery, Philippi.

THOMAS BENTON JOHNSON- Enlisted Co. H, 31st Virginia Infantry on 14 May 1861 at Philippi. Brother to Mortimer C. & Isaac V. **JOHNSON**. Born Barbour County 1838. Thomas deserted 15 November 1861 and returned to Barbour County where he was arrested as a POW on 25 November 1861 and was sent to the Union POW facility at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio. He was paroled for exchange from Camp Chase, 25 August 1862, via Cairo, Illinois to Vicksburg, Mississippi and exchanged aboard the steamer John H. Done on the Mississippi River on 11 September 1862. Returned to the 31st Virginia at White Post, Virginia by 18 November 1862, where he received a medical discharge for typhoid fever. Thomas was arrested 3 January 1863 in Randolph County by Co. A, 1st West Virginia Cavalry (Union). Post war records indicate he died either in a Union prison or while boarding a moving train. Thomas is buried Bluemont Cemetery, Grafton, Taylor County, West Virginia.

JOSEPH LINDEN JOHNSON- Private and drummer, Co. E, 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry, commanded by Captain Hannibal **HILL**. Brother to Mortimer C., Isaac V. & Thomas B. **JOHNSON**. Born Meadowville, Barbour County 1846. Later promoted and served on staff of General John D. **IMBODEN**, CSA. He surrendered 11 May 1865 to Union forces at Beverly, Randolph County and was paroled 17 May 1865 at Clarksburg, Harrison County, West Virginia. Joseph married Ella Rebecca **CRIM** on 12 January 1869, they had six children.

FREDERICK M. JOHNSON- Private-Corporal, Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry. Born Barbour County 1841. Son of Enoch & Rebecca (**COONTZ**) **JOHNSON** & grandson to Levi & Rebecca (**McMULLAN**) **JOHNSON**. His father Enoch **JOHNSON** served the Confederacy as a scout and mail courier. Frederick enlisted 18 May 1861 in Co. K at Meadowville and was promoted Corporal 01 July 1864. He was wounded in action in the arm on 8 May 1862 at the Battle of McDowell, Virginia. He was later wounded in the face, 22 August 1863, in a skirmish on the Rappahannock River. Frederick was one of the five remaining soldiers of Co. K, 31st Virginia who were present at the surrender of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Courthouse on 9 April 1865.

ADDISON E. MARPLE- Private, Co. D, 20th Virginia Cavalry. Born 17 April 1836, Warren District, Upshur County, West Virginia. Son of John Weaver & Ruth (**REGER**) **MARPLE** and grandson to John Abram & Barbara (**WEAVER**) **MARPLE**. Married first, 4 September 1859 to Marietta **CASTO**, the daughter of Joel & Jemima (**POST**) **CASTO**. Married second to Martha **CASTO**, a sister of his first wife. Addison enlisted 27 July 1863 near Hightown, Highland County,

Virginia, in Co. D, 20th Virginia Cavalry, commanded by Captain Edward M. **CORDER**. Addison apparently deserted shortly after his enlistment. He and his brother Albinas surrendered to Joseph **STRAGER**, a private citizen, 13 October 1863, took the Union oath of allegiance and were sent north. It was a common practice for Union authorities to send paroled Confederates north of the Ohio River for the duration of hostilities. Addison returned to Upshur County after the war as a farmer along the waters of Hacker's Creek, Warren District. Addison died 26 June 1921 and is buried McVaney Cemetery, Upshur County.

ALBINAS REGER MARPLE- Private, Co. D, 20th Virginia Cavalry. Brother to Addison E. **MARPLE**. Born 27 January 1834, Warren District, Upshur County. Married 01 February 1855, Mary J. **POST**, daughter of Daniel. She died 20 January 1909. Brother-in law to George W. **POST**, of Co. D, 20th Virginia Cavalry. Enlisted with his brother Addison at Hightown also deserted and was sent north after taking the oath of allegiance 13 October 1863. Post war farmer of 308 acres on Hacker's Creek. Albinas died 20 September 1908 and is buried adjacent to his brother Addison in the lonely hilltop McVaney Cemetery. 5)

The **MARPLE** brothers like many others wished to serve the cause of the Confederacy, yet their loyalty was in conflict with their awareness of the sufferings and privations of their families who lived behind enemy lines. A letter in the '31st Virginia Infantry' by John M. **ASHCRAFT**, from the wife of Private William W. **STOCKWELL** to her soldier husband states states, "having hard time...out of provisions...no crops...will come to you... meat me at Staunton". 5) Many soldiers requested detached duty to spy on Union activities and hopefully recruit soldiers but often their primary motivation was to visit home and family. By 1864 the declining fortunes of the Confederacy caused morale to plummet and desertions increased markedly.

SOLOMON C. GAINER (GANER)- Pvt.-Sgt., Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry. Born Barbour County 30 June 1841. Son of Samuel M. & Elizabeth (**CARPENTER**) **GAINER** and grandson of Bryan K. & Rachel (**BLACK**) **GAINER**. Solomon was taken prisoner 3 October 1861 while on picket duty during the Battle of Greenbrier River, Pocahontas County and was sent to Camp Chase. He was paroled for exchange from Camp Chase 25 August 1862 and transferred to Vicksburg, Mississippi via Cairo, Illinois. Exchanged 11 September 1862 aboard the steamer John H. Done near Vicksburg. He returned to 31st Virginia Infantry and was wounded in action in 1864. Present at the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, he was paroled 9 April 1865 at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia. He married Mary Jane **ADAMS** of Jennings Gap, Virginia, on 11 March 1866. Solomon and his family moved to Doxey, Beckham County, Oklahoma in 1901, where he was a farmer, minister & church elder. He received an Oklahoma State Confederate Soldier Pension in 1916. Solomon

died 3 February 1934 at Doxey, survived by his wife, nine children and 51 grandchildren. He was the oldest surviving member of Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry. Mary Jane **GAINER** died 17 November 1936 at Doxey. Mary and Solomon are buried Sayre-Doxey Cemetery. 7)

HAYMOND C. GAINER- Private, Co. E, 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry, commanded by Captain Hannibal **HILL**. Born Barbour County 1840. Son of Bryan K. & Sarah (**VANNOY**) **GAINER** and grandson to Bryan K. & Rachel (**BLACK**) **GAINER**. His only military record indicates he took the oath of allegiance, posted bond and was released 22 November 1863 at Clarksburg, Harrison County. Returned to Barbour County where he married Serena **PHILLIPS**, 24 November 1864, daughter of Asa & Mary (**PHILLIPS**) **PHILLIPS**. Asa **PHILLIPS** was a Union soldier in the 17th West Virginia Infantry. Haymond died 19 August 1895 in Barbour County.

MARION G. GAINER- 4th Sgt., Co. E, 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry. Born Barbour County. Son of Jackson B. & Rachel (**VANNOY**) **GAINER** and grandson to Bryan K. & Rachel (**BLACK**) **GAINER**. Enlisted Co. E, 26 August 1862, Pocahontas County. Likely present on the retreat from Gettysburg and the Battle of Williamsport, Maryland, 6 July 1863. Marion was reported captured by Union Barbour Home Guards 21 March 1864. No further military record. Married 3 June 1856 to Nancy **HOLSBERRY**, the daughter of Samuel & Magdalena (**DIGMAN**) **HOLSBERRY**. Samuel was incarcerated at Camp Chase from April 1862-January 1864 as a political prisoner charged with being a Southern sympathizer and was held as a hostage in retaliation for the kidnapping of Barbour County Sheriff James **TRAYERN** by Confederate raiders. Marion **GAINER** was living in Barbour County in 1888.

SYLVESTER GAINER- Co. A, 3rd Virginia State Line, (The 'Moccasin Rangers') & 3rd Sgt., Co. H, 20th Virginia Cavalry. Born 22 July 1844 Barbour County. Son of John & Mary (**STALLMAN**) **GAINER** and grandson to Brian & Mary E. (**CLARK**) **GAINER**. While a resident of Calhoun County, (West) Virginia, Sylvester enlisted 01 September 1862 in Co. A, 3rd Virginia State Line, commanded by Major George **DOWNS** of Calhoun County. He was captured 27 November 1862 in Calhoun County by the 6th West Virginia Infantry (Union) and sent to Alton Illinois Military Prison. He was paroled for exchange 01 April 1863 from Alton Prison to City Point, Virginia. Enlisted 01 June 1863 at Camp Northwest, Bath County, Virginia, Co. H, 20th Virginia Cavalry, commanded by Captain Joseph **HAYHURST** of Calhoun County. Sylvester was likely present on the Confederate cavalry raid at Beverly, Randolph County, in July 1863. He deserted, took the oath of allegiance and was released at Clarksburg, Harrison County, 25 December 1863. Married 1864 to Arminda **GAINER**. Married

second on 9 December 1879 to Amanda **BENNETT** in Gilmer County, West Virginia. Sylvester served as a minister near Salem, Harrison County where he died 02 April 1900. He is buried Tunnel Hill Cemetery near Salem.

STURMS H. GAINER- Co. A, 9th Battalion Virginia Infantry, (later, Co. A, 25th Virginia Infantry), commanded by Captain John A. **ROBINSON** of Taylor County. Born 1839 Barbour County. Son of George Washington & Phoebe (**SCHOONOVER**) **GAINER** and grandson to Bryan K. & Rachel (**BLACK**) **GAINER**. His father George served in Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry. 8) **STURMS** enlisted 31 May 1861 at Philippi and died of disease during the winter of 1862-63 near Gandy Creek, Randolph County. He has no known grave. Both Confederate & Union forces maintained hospitals in the caves of the 'Sinks of Gandy' at various times during the Civil War.

ALVIN DRAPER TRIMBLE- Private, Co. D, 20th Virginia Cavalry. Born 29 August 1845 near Peel Tree, Barbour County. Son of Andrew & Barbara (**MARPLE**) **TRIMBLE** and grandson to John & Sarah (**WAYBRIGHT**) **TRIMBLE**. This **TRIMBLE** family moved to Barbour County from near Monterey, Highland County, Virginia, about 1833. Following the failure of a family business they moved to the farm of Samuel & Isabella **WOODS** on Ford Run near Meriden, Barbour County, as tenant farmers. Union riders burned their home the night of 8 February 1862 while Andrew & Barbara were away, the children escaping with only their bedding and clothes. 9) Draper enlisted 01 May 1863 in Co. D, 20th Virginia Cavalry during the CSA Jones-Imboden raid. Prior to his enlistment he served the Confederacy as a cattle drover and courier. Draper was arrested on June 28, 1863, in Barbour County by the Union Home Guard and was sent to the POW facility at Fort Delaware, Maryland. On 12 September 1863 he signed the Union oath of allegiance and returned to Barbour County as a farmer, singing teacher and a founder of the church in Arden. Draper married on 3 May 1868 to Amanda **STEWART** at the home of her father Silas **STEWART** in Flemington, Barbour County. Amanda died 1922 and Draper died of cancer 3 July 1923 at his home near the Crislip Church, Union District, Barbour County. Amanda & Draper are buried Crislip Church Cemetery.

ASA O. BENNETT- Private, Co. H, 31st Virginia Infantry. Born 1841 on Laurel Creek, Glade District, Barbour County. Son of Jacob & Elizabeth (**GAINER**) **BENNETT** and grandson to Asa & Rachel (**JOHNSON**) **BENNETT**. Asa deserted after October 1863 and returned to Barbour County. He married Lettice Ann **POLING**, 11 June 1865, daughter of Daniel & Mary (**JACKSON**) **POLING**. Asa was brother to Jonathan P. **BENNETT**, Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry and brother-in-law to Valentine Black **POLING**, Co. E, 62nd Virginia

Mounted Infantry, husband of his sister Rachel **BENNETT**. Asa owned a 65-acre farm near Tacy, Barbour County where he died 20 September 1919. He is buried Crossroads Cemetery, Tacy, Barbour County. 10)

WILLIAM BENNETT- Captain of squad of Confederate Partisan Rangers near Glenville, Gilmer County, (West) Virginia. Born 7 December 1818 in Barbour County. Son of Joseph & Mary (**PHILIPPS**) **BENNETT** and grandson to Jacob & Sarah **BENNETT**. Joseph **BENNETT**, an 1812 War veteran, was born 23 March 1791, Fauquier County, Virginia and came to present day Calhoun County from Barbour County with his family about 1833. Joseph died Calhoun County, 27 September 1880 and is buried Mt. Carmel Church Cemetery near Normantown, Gilmer County. William was reported captured by Union forces 30 October 1864 at Arnoldsburg, Calhoun County and may have been sent to Camp Chase. No further military record. Married on 4 October 1838 to Miriam **BOGGS**, daughter of William & Sarah (**STUMP**) **BOGGS**. Miriam was born 8 October 1818, in the then Lewis County and died 29 May 1895, Gilmer County. William was a farmer on the left fork of Steer Creek near present day Normantown and a founder of the **BENNETT** Church (later Mount Carmel Church) located near the hamlet of **BENNETT**. William **BENNETT** died 14 November 1902 and is buried with Miriam in the Mount Carmel Church Cemetery.

During the Civil War years there was a general breakdown of law and order in the counties of central West Virginia. The Confederate Partisan Rangers were created to operate in small detachments behind Union lines to counter Union forces and Home Guards and protect Southern sympathizers and their families. Partisan service offered a certain freedom from the constraints and discipline of service with a regular CSA unit. In a letter written by Confederate General William L. **JACKSON** from Pocahontas County to his wife on 14 March 1862, he states, "I fear that many of my men will not reenlist. They all have the Guerilla fever. There is a wild, roving and daring life connected with that system, and a certain freedom from discipline and restraint, dazzling to most of them". 11) Captain William **BENNETT** like many others, who lived within these mountain backwaters, chose to serve the Confederate cause as Partisan Rangers, close to hearth and home..

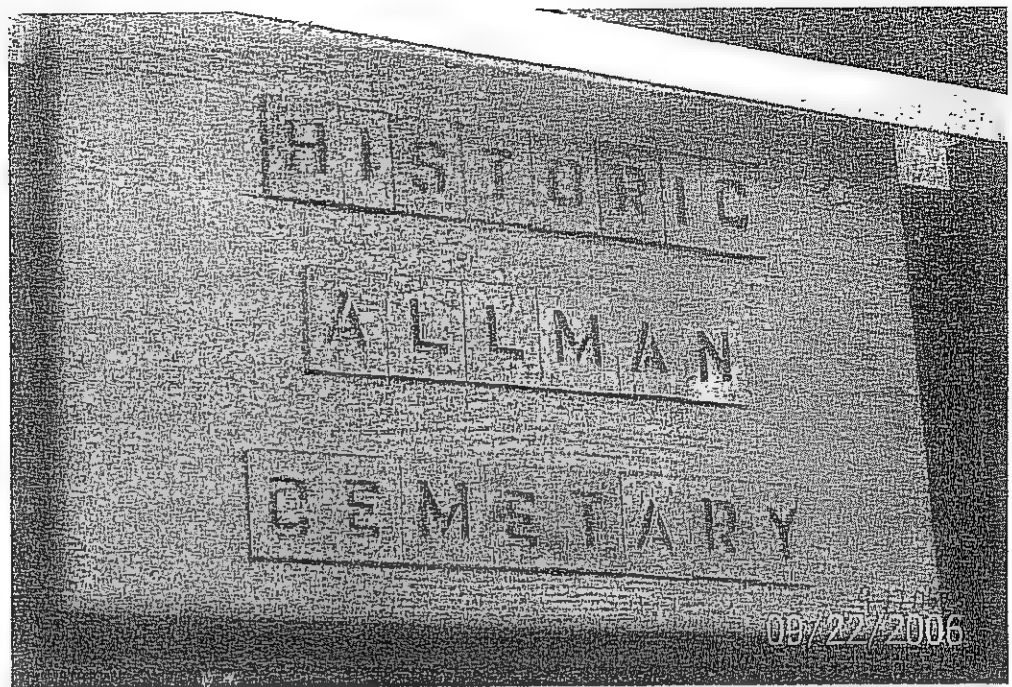
Endnotes & Bibliography

1) Primary sources for data on these Confederate soldiers and their families from County vital records, available census returns 1810-1870, court, land and probate records in county record offices and also held at Archives & History Library, State Archives, Charleston, WV., West Virginia Regional History Collection, West Virginia University, Morgantown & the Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

Other primary sources include the Compiled Confederate Service Records, Record Group 109, National Archives (NARA), Washington, D.C. Official Records of the War of Rebellion, Washington, D.C. 1899, Confederate Muster & Pay Rolls, Library, Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. Tombstone records from cemetery visits. Barbour Democrat & Wheeling Intelligencer newspapers.

Secondary sources in addition to those mentioned elsewhere include, Jeffrey **WEAVER** & Randall **OSBORNE**. 'The Virginia State Rangers and State Line', 1994. Roger U. Delauter Jr., 62nd Virginia Infantry, 2nd edition, 1988. John Ashcraft, '31st Virginia Infantry', 2nd edition, 1988. Richard L. Armstrong, '19th and 20th Virginia Cavalry', 1994 & '25th Virginia Infantry and 9th Battalion Virginia Infantry', 2nd edition, 1990. John W. Shaffer. 'Union and Confederate Soldiers and Sympathizers of Barbour County, West Virginia, 2005. Hu Maxwell. 'History of Randolph County', 1898 & 'History of Barbour County', 1899.

- 2) All place names, unless otherwise noted, are in terms of present day West Virginia locations and boundaries. The notation (West) Virginia appears when location was northwestern Virginia prior to the creation of the state of West Virginia, 20 June 1863.
- 3) The book 'Born to Blush Unseen', by Michael R. **HYMES**, 2004, gives an excellent account of the life of Captain John Riley **PHILLIPS**.
- 4) James M. **MCCANN**. 'Scouting in Virginia', P. 214&215, 'Confederate Veteran', Vol. II, 1894. The 'Confederate Veteran' is the journal publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Columbia, Tennessee.
- 5) Gravestone record, McVane Cemetery, Upshur County, West Virginia.
- 6) Private William **STOCKWELL** was later severely wounded during the Battle of Hatcher's Run, Virginia, a few weeks before the surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.
- 7) Oklahoma State Confederate Soldier Pension Record, # 1995, Oklahoma City, , 1916
- 8) Civil War experiences of George Washington **GAINER**, Fifer, Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry were reported in the HCPD Journal, Vol. XXIII, Issue 3, 2004-2005.
- 9) Ruth **WOODS** Drayton. 'Samuel **WOODS** and His Family', p. 66, 1939.
- 10) Civil War experiences of Corporal Jesse T. **BENNETT**, Private Jonathan P. **BENNETT** and 1st Sgt. Jacob S. **BENNETT**, all of Co. K, 31st Virginia Infantry, were reported in HCPD Journal, Vol. XXIII, issue 3, 2004-2005. 'The Mystery of Jacob S. **BENNETT**'.
- 11) Letter from General William L. **JACKSON**, CSA, to Sarah **JACKSON**, written from Camp Allegheny, Pocahontas County, appearing in Ronald V. Hardway. 'On Our Own Soil'. 2003.



NEW SIGN FOR HISTORIC ALLMAN CEMETERY

by Maurice ALLMAN

With team effort we have placed a new sign on the gate to the historic **ALLMAN** Cemetery located in Upshur County just south of U.S. 33 and about five miles west of Buckhannon on the **MARKS** family farm.

Jackie **WOOD** of Mingo, WV, a cousin to my wife Bertha, made the sign with oak wood and wood letters. I placed a piece of white plastic on top of the sign to reduce rain exposure.

I attached the sign to the gate.

From the gate, I looked around the small fenced area where **Ed ALLMAN** and his brother had cut the weeds and small trees about two years ago. On the upper and northern area, three trees are leaning in a southern direction. Should they get wind blown and break, they would most likely fall on the monument of William **ALLMAN** of 1755. I believe if one or more of the trees would fall on the **ALLMAN**

monument, it would more than likely break the new monument which Ed and I installed.

As a note of interest, Ed and I contacted over 400 ALLMAN families and asked for some money (about \$1200). We received over \$1300 and gave the rest to HCPD.



I contacted the owner, Charles MARKS of Buckhannon, and told him of my concern. He returned my call and said the trees were cherry trees and their leaves are poisonous to cattle and we should wait until the leaves fall and dry up. However, in the meantime he would try to tie the trees to other trees that would pull the cherry trees away from the ALLMAN monument.

I expressed my appreciation and asked him to call me when he was ready to work on the trees and that I had some rope and pulleys that may help in this effort to removed the trees and save the ALLMAN monument.

Your Queries and Stories are Needed

The Hacker's Creek Journal is YOUR publication. The editors heartily solicit your queries and original stories. You may submit them by e-mail to queries@hackerscreek.com or mail them to HCPD, 45 Abbotts Run Road, Horner, WV 26372. Your queries must specifically state that you want them published in the Journal and you must include a statement that we have permission to publish your stories. If you have any questions, you will find the editor's name and address listed with the officers at the front of this Journal.

Diversity in Colonial West Virginia

The Leading Creek Massacre as a Model of the American Melting Pot

by David Armstrong

It was just before corn planting time that night in April of 1781, as a woman lay between two Indian warriors beside a camp fire in the rolling hills along Hughes River in what is today Ritchie County, West Virginia. Her sleep was disturbed. The party about the fire was a raiding party and their captives - on the run from an attack that day. Leaving the cabins of the Leading Creek settlement in the Tygart Valley in flames and the forest floor drenched in the blood of settlers, of old and young, of men and women and children, the party had stopped to rest - some tied down, others asleep. But this woman could not sleep - frequently she was startled awake exclaiming "There are white people about!" until finally she was told to lie back down. She passed the night tending the fire until the pre-dawn quiet was shattered by the gunfire of the provincial militia. When the battle was over, the two Indians with whom she slept lay dead. She would long remember that awful night, and tearfully mourn the death of these brave sons of the forest. This woman had witnessed the worst Indian raid that the Tygart Valley ever saw, and watched the brains of her only son splatter in the leaves, blasted out by a ball from a frontiersman's musket.. Yet this woman was one of the captives.

The story of what happened to Catherine **RONEY** and her family in the mountains that April is the story of America. She is remembered in history as a local icon - a survivor of America's war for independence. Hers is the story of the front lines in the American Revolution. The tales of border warfare between Indians and Europeans have been told a thousand times: a romantic epic of mountaineers and dusky Indian braves, of buckskin and buckshot, of lightning raids and dramatic rescues. But the story is so much more. It is the *REAL* story of America: the mixing of cultures and races, a story at once more complicated than the romantic stuff of frontier novels and more interesting for its bare reality and the picture it paints of America - an America bred in a melting pot and born of diversity. It is a story that begins long before that fateful night in 1781.

While European settlers had not reached West Virginia by the year 1600, their trade goods had. Items of European manufacture have been excavated by archeologists from Indian sites dating well before the advent of white settlers in the region. One can only imagine the surprise of the Pilgrims in Massachusetts when upon their arrival at Plymouth they encountered an Indian

who spoke English. This individual, who said his name was Samoset, had been in contact with European fisherman who frequented the area well before permanent settlement. It has been suggested that in his broken English he was trying to tell them his ENGLISH name, Somerset, but this is not clear. Samoset told the Pilgrims that he would introduce them to another Indian, Squanto, who spoke better English than he did. Squanto had traveled in Europe and had taught English to some other members of his nation. All of this happened years before the landing of the Puritans on Plymouth Rock.

During the 1500s and 1600s native groups in America had been in a state of flux and rapid changes. Whole tribal groups moved to new homes as others took their homeland, sometimes due to diseases and sometimes wars, both often due to their associations with Europeans. Among Puritans there was relatively little mixing of blood but to the west in New France (Canada) the case was very different. The French, who held the Great Lakes region and the Mississippi Valley, routinely lived among the Indians, intermarried with them, and Jesuit Priests worked hard to convert the various peoples that they came into contact with into good Catholics as the Pilgrims converted many to the Protestant faith. Besides the mixing of blood adoption was a common practice among Native Americans. The Iroquois went on "mourning wars" at the instigation of the women of the Confederacy, the women holding a good deal of political power in many native cultures. These "mourning wars" were to capture replacements for lost sons, daughters, and husbands who had died or been taken into captivity either as slaves or as prisoners in wars with Europeans or other Indians groups. Some were conducted in what is now West Virginia.

James **SMITH** was captured by Indians on Conococheague Creek near Hagerstown in the 1750s, taken to Ohio, and by Indian custom was adopted into an Indian family, becoming for all intents and purposes a member of the family into which he was adopted. When he was introduced to his adoptive sister, she was introduced by their Indian brother as "Mary." **SMITH** asked his adopted brother why an Indian would have a name like "Mary", and the brave replied "Our sister is a Catholic - is that not a good Catholic name?" By the time of the French and Indian war the whites living among the Indians were numerous. Some of these were captives, some had been adopted into Indian families and had married Indians, many of these having children with Indian husbands and little interest in ever returning to European society. Still others were traders, these having been west of the mountains for a generation before the coming of permanent settlement carrying on a rich trade in peltry so coveted in the fashionable circle of Europe to be made into clothing items. In exchange the traders brought the Indian items of British manufacture including but not limited to axes, eating utensils, clothing, tools, and shoes.

Certainly war decimated the culture of the Native Americans, but the advent of these goods did as much if not more toward the destruction of their

way of life. After a generation of using European tools and goods, the Indian was "hooked", had forgotten how to do things the old way. While the European was supplied from across the Atlantic, the Indian had to depend on the European to get the goods that they had come to need. The Indians of West Virginia had firearms in the 1670s if not before, and the introduction of this technology among native groups upset the balance of political alliances that had existed for centuries. The Indian was caught between a rock and a hard place. They needed to maintain amicable relations with the Europeans and at the same time defend themselves against an onslaught of foreigners who would ultimately destroy them.

By the time Europeans and Indians met in the mountains of West Virginia neither group was the same as they had been 250 years earlier. The former had been different nationalities, religions, languages and cultures and were thrown together in what indeed was a new world where they mixed and mingled and forged a new identity - the American identity. The Indian had also formerly been of varied cultures that had existed for centuries, but European diseases and technology would cause a great change - so much so that many nations were gone entirely and others had been absorbed into other tribes and then moved about as the balance readjusted.

It may be worth noting that the renowned chief **LOGAN** who gave the famous piece of oratory that has bored schoolboys for countless semesters was the son of a white man. Logan's father was a French adopted Iroquois, baptized a Catholic and then a Moravian. Captain **BULL** of Bulltown fame was also the son of a Christian, Teedyuscung, and Bull had uncles named Joe **EVANS** and Tom **EVANS**. According to the Draper interviews Peter **HARPER**, the "half Indian", lived in a fort among settlers in Kentucky. The interview also points out that "none of the other half Indians did" implying that there was more than one, if not several. Elizabeth Wallace **WHITE** of Buckhannon Fort fame apparently had an Indian baby shortly after her husband was killed, and twenty five years earlier one Samuel **STAHLEKER** (sic) and wife Susanna baptized a daughter Maria Barbara, "who (is) from India (or is an Indian?)" (sic) according to the published record of the Monocacy Lutheran Church in Maryland. Clearly a settler fighting an Indian in present-day West Virginia in the 1770s could have had an adversary, relative, or in-law all in one person.

It is likely that the poor Mrs. **RONEY** who escaped death that night in 1781 is a product of the circumstances related above. What if any relationship she had to American Indians is not known, but it is known that after Mr. **RONEY**'s death she re-married to a Revolutionary War veteran in Hardy County named John **MONK**. It is also known that **MONK**'s second wife was of mixed ancestry and that her descendants during the Victorian era claimed the Mingo Indians as their ancestors. The story of Catherine **RONEY** is one that every American should honor. For in her and her times is the real story of

America. From the beginning America was truly a new land - a land that grew strong and great BECAUSE of its diversity. As Africans taught settlers in South Carolina to grow rice and Indians assisted the infant settlements on the coast to survive, it has been the mixing of blood and diffusion of cultures that made America strong. Americans who harbor frustrations with their minority neighbors or anger at illegal immigrants would do well to remember where they come from. In one way or another we are all a mongrel mix.

From the Online Genealogist

Submitted by Ruth HIGHLAND

Question:

In one of my ancestors' memorandums I find that she sat for a photograph in 1859 in New York for a Mr. Hagar or Hager. How I can find out about who this photographer was?

Answer:

Searching the 1860 Census will help you locate the photographer's family. You can also examine New York city directories. I would advise you also to search the free database of known American photographers from of the early 19th century titled *Craig's Daguerreian Registry - The Acknowledged Resource on American Photographers 1839-1860* at www.daguerreotype.com. A quick search of this database reveals a photographer named Henry Hager was operating in New York City from 1858 to 1860. You may also find contacting the Daguerrian Society may aid your search. They can be contacted at www.daguerre.org.

David Allen LAMBERT is the Society's Online Genealogist. If you would like to ask him a question, contact him at onlinegenealogist@nehgs.org or visit his blog at www.davidlambertblog.com. For more information about the Online Genealogist visit www.newenglandancestors.org/research/main/online_genealogist.asp. Please note that he will make every effort to reply to each message, but will respond on a first-come, first-served basis.

Genealogy????

QUERIES

1. I am looking for information on Simon **DAVIS** b 1800 in VA, m Edith **HUDKINS** d/o Barton **HUDKINS** and Naomi **INGRAM** Feb 1827 in Harrison, VA. Were his parents Gary **DAVIS** and Rosanna **PECK**? Where is he buried? The Tetrick Papers say he died in 1876. His second wife was Martha (Patty) **SMITH PENNINGER** m 1846. Martha's first husband was William **PENNINGER**. Have not been able to find Simon in the 1870 census -- Martha is living Lincoln Twp, Lewis, WV in 1870 and Skin Creek, Lewis, WV in 1880. Also where were Simon's sons, Gary VanBuren **DAVIS** and Barton Jackson **DAVIS** in the 1850 census? They were sixteen and fourteen years old then. Margaret Elizabeth is with her **INGRAM** grandparents and Simon and Edith's youngest, Caleb Preston, is with Simon and Patty in the 1850 census. Daughter Mandane was already married by 1850. Also we believe that Simon and Edith had two more daughters, Naomi(?) b 1827-8 and Minerva (?) b abt 1830. Thanx, Lois M. **BOZARTH**, 84 Sleepy Meadow Lane, Port Angeles, WA 98363 -- 360-461-7222, walobo@clallambroadband.com

2. Looking for parents of Nancy A. **CARROLL** born 1 May 1803, probably Ireland. Married 11 October 1821, possibly Pennsylvania or Marion Co, WV to William A **WRIGHT**, Sr. Children are: Ellender, Nathan, Fielding, William, Daniel, Catherine, Ida, Barbara and Jessie. Information on any member of this family will be helpful. Charlotte **FLEMING**, 8521 E. Shiloh Street, Tucson, AZ 85710

3. I am having trouble finding the death information on my Great-Great Grandfather. His name was George Hanson **MEALY**. He was the son of Nancy **MEALY-WILSON** born abt 1863. He lived mostly with his Grandparents Andrew and Elizabeth **COCHRAN-MEALY** in Knawls Creek, Braxton County, Saltlick District. He married Cora Bell **WALTON**. The last information I can find on him is the 1910 census. The 1920 census just shows Cora and the remaining children at home. Any help would be appreciated. Thanks Jennifer **BOYLES** jboyles@bestitle.com,

4. Someone has to have knowledge of or belong to the family of Henry **GLAZE**, living in Lewis Co., 1850 Census with his wife Sophia (**MEANS**) **GLAZE**. I can't be the only one who descends from him. There was a George

GLAZE in Wood Co. about the same time but I have not been able to connect to him. Henry was b. 18 Jan 1804 (census said in OH) and he m. Sophia in 1826, she was d/o Robert **MEANS** and Mary **HENRY MEANS** - and they moved to Reedy, Roane Co., to be closer to their children in ca 1856. Henry died there 12 Feb 1876. **HELP!** This is definitely a brick wall for me. Bette Butcher **TOPP** - 1304 W. Cliffwood Court, Spokane, WA 99218 (509) 467-2299 toppline@comcast.net

5. Elizabeth **GIVINS** b.c a 1731 in Lancaster Co., PA d. in Jackson Co., WV. She was married to William **STEWART** who d. 10 Feb 1811 near Stewarttown, Monongalia Co., WV. Who was Elizabeth's father? Mother said to be Margaret **THOMAS**. I know nothing about her. Bette Butcher **TOPP** - 1304 W. Cliffwood Court, Spokane, WA 99218 (509) 467-2299 toppline@comcast.net

6. Jacob **CONRAD** b. 1705 Bern, Switzerland, and d. 7 Dec 1775 Pendleton Co., WV. One of his wives was Frena/Svana **LAUCH** or **LAUCK**. Jacob had dau. Elizabeth **CONRAD** who was b. 1746 and m. George **FISHER**, Sr. on 24 Aug 1762 Pendleton Co. They had son, Charles **FISHER** b. 25 Aug 1770 who m. Eunice **STRATTON** before 1789, and Charles d. in Lewis Co. ca Jul 1829. Does anyone descend from this family? Bette Butcher Topp - 1304 W. Cliffwood Court, Spokane, WA 99218 (509) 467-2299 toppline@comcast.net

7. Searching for the parents or maiden name of my g.g.g. grandmother Nancy married to Daniel **CAPITO** of Franklin, Pendleton Co, VA(W). One name was **HERDERBERG** but to my knowledge there is no documentation for this. Daniel & Nancy died within a few years of each other about 1824-26 in VA(W). One source reported her maiden name to be **MERCHANT**. F.W. Leach M.S. who wrote 13 vol. about the Signers of the Decl. of Independence showed Jerusha **HART** (1802-1875) m. Sept 1823 Daniel **CAPITO** Jr. (1802-1869) s/o Daniel and Nancy **HILLEY CAPITO**. There are a few **HILLEY**s in Lewis Co. Is anyone connected to the **HILLEY** family in WV? Shirley **TOOHEY** 1140 N. Circle Dr, La Habra, CA 90631-2728 or s2ee@juno.com

8. I am trying to determine the parents of Frank **RAMSEY**, who married Martha **MCFEE**, Aug. 30, 1903 in Ritchie Co. WV. They were the parents of 3 sons, Howard, Oran, & Harland per the 1910 Ritchie Co. census. Any help is much appreciated. Carolyn H. **RAMSAY**, 58 Tyler Circle, Strasburg, VA 22657.

9. What happened to Shadrack **BARKLEY**? He was in Harrison Co, VA 1789 to 1807 when he and wife, Nancy Ann, sold their land. What was Nancy Ann's maiden name?

Isaac **PRUNTY** (son of John & Mary) married 1792 Phoebe **BARKLEY** (dau of William); they were in Harrison Co, VA through the 1830 census - who were their children?

Looking for parents of Allison Burr **POWELL** b 13 Jan 1810; d 15 Sep 1862 Taylor Co, VA; m 15 Jan 1835 Harrison Co, VA Jane **BROHARD**

Looking for children and grandchildren of Thomas **ASBURY** who married c1792 Elizabeth **BARTLETT CARROLL**; and what may have happened to him after 1823 (he was in Harrison Co, VA at that time) Jim **BARTLETT** 7224 Beacon Ter., Bethesda, MD 20817 jim4bartletts@verizon.net

10. I would like to know where John **GROVES** and his son Selden Harness **GROVES** are buried. I know that John's daughter Margaret Virginia **GROVES DENNISON** is buried "at a cemetery near Jacksonville, this county (Lewis). (Ind. Wed. 14 July 1926)" and I think that John and/or Selden Harness are buried there. My Aunt Ada **GROVE WATSON KELLEY** told me that one or some of the graves in a cemetery on a ridge overlooking Jacksonville were her grandfathers graves. I think that there were only native stone markers marking the graves. I know that our grandfather John D. **WELLEN** was buried at Jacksonville "Services Friday, burial Jacksonville Cemetery. (Dem. Fri. 1 Sept. 1933)". His second wife, Estaline **GROVES**, the daughter of John **GROVES** and his first wife Mary **SHROUT**, may have also been buried there also, but although I doubt it, my great grandfather Wellen may have been buried beside his first wife, Phoebe Francis **SUMMERS**.

I would like to know if John's second wife's name was Sarah **RIFFLE**. One of my **WELLEN** cousins "thinks" he remembers her name was recorded as Riffle in the **WELLEN** Bible. She would have been the mother of Margret Virginia **GROVES DENNISON** and Nancy **GROVES** born 30 May 1858 in Lewis County and the step mother of Ann Rebecca **GROVES DENNISON's**, Francis Marion **DENNISON's** first and second wives.

I would appreciate any help in discovering the answer to my questions. Darrell **GROVES** kdw**GROVES**@yahoo.com

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